

Concealment, Ukas Drop

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CONFIDENTIAL2 July 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Concealment Project for SR Division

1. On 13 May [] of this office visited the Army Chemical Center and requested their services in building a series of steps with a small landing at the top. This was done at the request of [], SR Division. The steps were to be used as a training aid for the agent about to undertake an operation which included the planting of a dead drop under the steps.

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2. At the same time, the help of TSL was enlisted to make up three types of mock-up dead drop containers. The type which proved best suited for placement under the steps was to be selected as the model for making up two final containers for actual use. After numerous practice sessions, which incidentally involved a complete rebuilding and modification of the steps at SR's request, a design was decided on and arrangements were made with TSL for the fabrication of the final packages. The laboratory in the meantime was working on other aspects of the SR job at the direct request of SR Division.

3. On 28 May, the dead line for Engineering Division, [] completed the final packaging of the dead drops at TSL in the presence of Mr. [] of SR. Considerable time and care went into this final packaging to insure water proofness, as the drop was to be placed outdoors where it would remain for many months unattended.

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4. Shortly after [] turned the dead drops over to [] it was learned that the packages were cut open, turned inside out (Kel-F plastic film), and taped shut in an effort to reduce overall package size. It is the opinion of the engineers who worked on this project that modifying the package in such a manner may have seriously jeopardized the water proofness of the packages. In this event the efforts expended by the TSS Divisions, PSD, TSL, FED and ED may not have been as effective as they could have been. Although it is difficult to recount the number of man-hours of TSS personnel which went into this project, a conservative estimate would be about 100 man-hours, part of which was overtime.

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